



Energize Ohio: Building Ohio's Energy Future

Purpose

Energize Ohio is a multidisciplinary program that addresses a wide range of energy education topics including shale energy, renewable energy, energy policy, on-farm energy, youth education, landowner leasing, and sustainable community planning. The curriculum consists of worksheets, presentation materials, workshop materials, bulletins, fact sheets, marketing templates, and evaluation tools. The ultimate goal of Energize Ohio is to enhance community leaders' and local residents' knowledge of energy drivers and development in order to promote informed decision-making and best practices.

Impact

Partnered with 25 counties and four economic development districts to conduct economic research and trend analysis related to shale energy development. The data was used to inform the development of strategic planning initiatives, which were later adopted into the comprehensive economic development strategic plans.

Partnered with Ohio Sea Grant and OSU Stone Laboratory to develop a new curriculum for youth energy education. The curriculum is designed to enhance students (grades 7-10) knowledge about solar photovoltaic and solar thermal technologies.

Partnered with the University of Wyoming to develop a six-part bulletin series to increase participants' knowledge of photovoltaic solar energy development and the financial considerations to guide informed decision-making with future energy investments in agriculture.

In total, since 2012 the Energize Ohio Signature Program team has delivered more than 240 programs in 67 of Ohio's 88 counties, reaching 15,500 participants.

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

OSU Office of Energy and Environment
OSUE - Community Development
OSUE - Agriculture and Natural Resources
OSUE - Family & Consumer Sciences
OSUE - 4-H Youth Development
OSUE - Shale Work Group
School of Environment and Natural Resources
Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics
C. William Swank Program in Rural-Urban Policy Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering
OSU Subsurface Energy Resource Center (SERC)
OSU Center of Automotive Research
Ohio Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Team
Ohio Bio-Products Innovation Center (OBIC)
Ohio Sea Grant
OSU Stone Laboratory

Community Partners Involved

Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development Organization
Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District
Guernsey County Planning Committee
Guernsey County Improvement Corporation
Cambridge Chamber of Commerce

Industry Partners Involved

Dovetail Solar and Wind
EDF Renewable Energy
Farm Credit Mid-America
Harvest Energy Solutions
Paradise Energy Solutions
Solar Power and Light
Third Sun Solar
Vaughn Industries

How you can get involved:

- Contact your local OSU Extension Office
- Email Energize Ohio Program Leader at Romich.2@osu.edu

To get involved, contact:

Eric Romich
OSU Extension Field Specialist,
Energy Development Ohio State University Extension
romich.2@osu.edu